



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Tennessee News Release

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In Cooperation with Tennessee Department of Agriculture

2011 CROP SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

NASHVILLE, November 9, 2011 – Tennessee farmers took advantage of October's open weather pattern and kicked harvest into high gear. Corn harvest is now virtually finished for the season while soybean and cotton harvests are not far behind, with over eighty percent of these acreages harvested. State Director, Debra Kenerson, stated, "Given this year's negative early weather challenges, the 2011 season has been relatively good." The results from a recent survey of farmers conducted by the Tennessee Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service indicated slightly lower soybean and corn prospects than indicated just one month ago, while cotton prospects remained constant. In brief, this forecast showed the following: **Corn**, 136 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from a month earlier, but up 19 bushels from last year's yield of 117 bushels; **Cotton**, 823 pounds per acre, unchanged from a month ago, but down 22 pounds from last year; **Soybeans**, 34 bushels per acre, down 1 bushel from October, and up 3 bushels from 2010.

COTTON PRODUCTION HOLDS STEADY

Tennessee's cotton production is projected at 840,000 bales, up 23 percent from last year's production of 681,000 bales, and unchanged from the October 1 forecast. Cotton yields are forecast to average 823 pounds per acre, down 22 pounds from the previous year. Producers expect to harvest 490,000 acres, up 103,000 acres from 2010. An extremely dry August hindered yield potential on acreage planted in June, but cotton planted on-time is yielding surprisingly well. The net effect is an overall average yielding cotton crop. Good harvesting conditions persisted during October and eighty-six percent of the cotton acreage has been harvested.

2011 PRODUCES AN AVERAGE YIELDING SOYBEAN CROP

Soybean production is anticipated to be 42.5 million bushels, down about 3 percent from the 2010 production. Soybean yields are projected at 34.0 bushels per acre, an increase of 3 bushels from 2010, and down 1 bushel from last month. Acreage for harvest is estimated at 1.25 million acres, down 160,000 from a year ago. Mild autumn weather led to excellent harvesting conditions. Soybean harvest picked up momentum and is now proceeding on target with the normal pace with eighty-one percent harvested. Despite this year's weather challenges of spring storms and late summer drought, the 2011 soybeans have turned out to be an overall average yielding crop.

2011 CORN PRODUCTION SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD

Tennessee's corn production is forecast at 99.3 million bushels, up about a third from a year ago and the highest production on record since 1917. Yields averaged 136 bushels per acre, down one bushel from last month's forecast, but up 19 bushels from 2010 and 13 bushels per acre better than the 5-year average. Farmers harvested 730,000 acres for grain, 90,000 more acres than last year. Virtually all the corn crop has been harvested. Corn yields were highly variable across the state and even within the same county.

(OVER)

CROP FORECASTS: TENNESSEE AND UNITED STATES, NOVEMBER 1, 2011, WITH COMPARISONS

Crop	Units	Harvested Acres		Yield Per Acre		Production	
		2010	Indicated 2011	2010	Indicated 2011	2010	Indicated 2011
		Thousands		Number of Units		Thousands	
TENNESSEE							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	7,500	8,500
Corn for grain	bu.	640	730	117	136	74,880	99,280
Cotton ¹	lb.	387	490	845	823	681	840
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	1,950	1,900	2.10	2.20	4,095	4,180
Soybeans	bu.	1,410	1,250	31.0	34.0	43,710	42,500
Tobacco, All	lb.	22.3	22.0	2,051	2,153	45,740	47,360
Dark fire-cured	lb.	6.2	6.9	2,900	3,000	17,980	20,700
Burley	lb.	15.0	14.0	1,660	1,700	24,900	23,800
Dark air-cured	lb.	1.1	1.1	2,600	2,600	2,860	2,860
Winter Wheat	bu.	180	310	53.0	69.0	9,540	21,390
UNITED STATES							
Apples	lb.	---	---	---	---	9,301,600	9,429,900
Corn for grain	bu.	81,446	83,936	152.8	146.7	12,446,865	12,309,936
Cotton ¹	lb.	10,698.7	9,849.5	812	794	18,104.1	16,300.2
Hay, All (excluding Alfalfa)	ton	39,906	38,276	1.95	1.75	77,653	66,980
Soybeans	bu.	76,610	73,676	43.5	41.3	3,329,181	3,045,558
Tobacco, All	lb.	337.50	331.88	2,130	1,922	718,883	637,903
Dark fire-cured	lb.	15.65	16.40	3,091	3,195	48,379	52,400
Burley	lb.	97.6	89.2	1,922	1,944	187,570	173,400
Dark air-cured	lb.	5.5	5.5	2,760	2,840	15,180	15,620
Winter Wheat	bu.	31,741	32,314	46.8	46.2	1,484,861	1,493,677

¹ Production in 480-lb. net weight bales. U.S. production includes American-Pima cotton.

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